

From: Charles Marcus
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 10:33am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hi,

I am writing to express my concern that this settlement is in fact a sellout.

Microsoft certainly is entitled to develop its own software the way it wants to, but thats not the problem, and thats not what they were convicted of.

They were convicted of monopolistic practices. The very worst practices they engaged in consisted of bullying PC manufacturers and distributors by forcing them to sign agreements that prevented them from selling PCs without the MS operating system. This in effect FORCES people to buy their product, whether they want it or not, just to be able to buy a PC.

This is the one area that absolutely needs to be addressed in any remedy, or else there will in effect be no remedy.

Microsoft **must** be forever precluded from preventing PC manufacturers and distributors from selling PCs without the MS operating system.

I also strongly support penalties, in the form of reimbursing anyone who ever bought a PC and had to pay for the MS OS that did not want it.

The only way to make a monopolist stop doing what they are doing is to provide punishment and a remedy if they violate the law.

Please, please don't let that entire trial be for nothing.

Best regards,

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